

# **COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION**

# Commission Meeting Minutes September 4, 2018

Meeting called to order at 3:08 p.m.

#### I. Roll Call

- a. Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje, Vice Chair
- **b.** Dr. Lisa Baza, Member-at-Large
- c. Eddie Duenas, Statehood Task Force
- d. Adrian Cruz, Free Association Task Force
- e. Victoria Leon Guerrero Independence Task Force
- f. Tristan Quintanilla, Youth Congress
- g. Also Present:
  - i. Eloy Hara, Statehood Task Force

### II. Approval of Minutes: August 7, 2018

a. Motion to Approve – Victoria Leon Guerrero. Seconded by Tristan Quintanilla.

#### **III.** Continuing Business

- a. Self-Determination Study
  - i. Followed up with AG's Office. It is still being reviewed by the attorney assigned.
- b. Financial Report
  - i. Financial report is attached.
  - ii. Dr. Baza If by September 20, if 50% is not committed, can it be transferred between task forces? Does law allow?
  - iii. Mariana Pangelinan I'm not sure since the law specifies the amount to be given for each task force.
- c. United Nations Fourth Committee



- i. Vice Chair We should have a special meeting to talk about that trip one week from today and discuss what will be said.
- ii. Victoria Leon Guerrero we should do that. We should follow up on items added to the resolution and the visiting mission and other corresponding items.

#### d. UOG Marketing Plan

- i. We are waiting on word about possible DOI Grant Extension.
- e. Task Force Updates to be given by chairpersons of each task force
  - i. Free Association Adrian Cruz
     We are hoping to launch an online campaign with podcasts. We are waiting on the procurement of equipment.
  - ii. Independence Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero
    We had a general assembly. We talked about whether size matters regarding the successs of independent nations. We had a reportback from members who attended UN Meetings. We will be sending some members to the Fourth Committee. We also continue to do livestreaming and podcasts.
  - iii. Statehood Eddie Duenas

We are getting together members and trying to identify which moneys we are able to spend. We want to print 20,000 brochures and use money for sending in bulk mail through USPS to the voters.

#### IV. New Business

- a. FY 2019 Budget
  - i. Pages referencing COD in Public Law 34-116; Bill No. 323-34, are attached. COD will receive \$340,848, with \$60,000 to each task force. This is a \$45,215 deduction from FY18 initial budget of \$386,063.



ii. Victoria-Lola – we are supposed to be involved in who is hired and how much they are compensated. So we'd like to do that. Task forces could also check for grants and obtain ways to supplement moneys.

# V. Next Meeting: October 2, 2018

## VI. Open Discussion

- **a.** Adrian Cruz Secretary of Interior is on island. Maybe we could try to meet with him to relay information and/or get information from him.
- **b.** Vice Chairwoman We could request informally through the governor's office to see if they are willing to meet with the Commission.
- c. Motion: To have a special meeting regarding the UN Fourth Committee –
   Victoria Leon Guerrero, Seconded by Adrian Cruz.
   Independence Task force will forward compilation of testimonies to prepare for the meeting.

### VII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn – Adrian Cruz, seconded by Victoria Leon Guerrero. No objections.

Meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.